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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CANBERRA

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, MAY 1984

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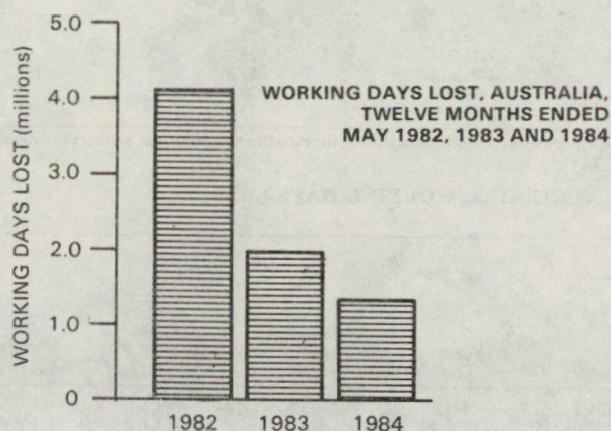
MAIL INQUIRIES

for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Trevor Allan on Canberra (062) 52 7136 or any of our State offices.

other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

MAIN FEATURES



The recent low levels of disputation continued in May 1984 with 98,300 working days lost by 35,400 workers in 181 disputes.

For the 12 months ended May 1984 the Mining, other than coal industry recorded 4,971 working days lost per thousand employees compared with 252 for the All Industries sector.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

From January 1984 details of *estimated loss in wages* have been suspended. For further information see the January 1984 issue of this publication.

Coverage

2. The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more *at the establishments where the stoppages occurred*.

3. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 5) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

4. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

Definitions

5. For these statistics an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of

their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

6. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

7. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

8. *Working days lost* refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

9. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been *excluded* from tables 4 and 5 but *included* in tables 1 to 3.

10. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

Other ABS publications

11. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

Labour Statistics, Australia, 1982 (6101.0)

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—quarterly and annual
The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—monthly

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- r revised

13. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R.J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost ('000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	
1981	2,887	2,915	1,229.1	1,251.8	4,192.2
1982	2,045	2,060	691.3	722.9	2,158.0
1983	1,780	1,788	453.2	470.6	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—					
May 1982	2,597	2,674	1,179.1	1,244.4	4,118.2
May 1983	1,833	1,854	568.5	597.5	1,980.8
May 1984	1,847	1,866	445.8	448.4	1,312.7
1983—					
June	164	183	50.4	52.9	100.5
July	179	209	41.9	60.0	148.1
August	192	224	65.8	73.1	146.9
September	146	173	27.0	39.2	103.3
October	181	208	59.7	70.2	124.3
November	171	192	37.3	46.1	136.9
December	88	102	24.1	33.1	83.3
1984—					
January	82	89	14.2	23.4	37.4
February	156	167	23.9	25.3	97.6
March	214	233	48.6	51.8	120.5
April	112	133	24.0	28.4	115.7
May	163	181	29.2	35.4	98.3

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Mining		Manufacturing		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries (a)	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1981	318.3	307.4	1,221.6	654.1	441.9	465.5	783.3	4,192.2
1982	525.8	157.1	241.8	333.0	231.1	296.2	373.1	2,158.0
1983	122.8	194.7	155.8	120.7	337.2	215.4	494.8	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—								
May 1982	675.0	270.2	963.6	669.5	432.8	416.6	690.6	4,118.2
May 1983	160.3	108.5	237.0	277.5	263.2	314.4	620.0	1,980.8
May 1984	105.9	287.8	116.6	179.7	258.0	142.7	221.9	1,312.7
1983—								
June	5.3	11.4	8.1	9.2	22.9	13.8	29.9	100.5
July	8.7	22.0	17.7	16.3	29.7	(b)	10.3	148.1
August	12.1	40.1	18.8	25.3	33.4	4.8	12.4	146.9
September	9.3	50.2	8.5	11.7	12.5	3.5	7.6	103.3
October	12.3	12.2	8.6	7.3	36.6	8.7	38.4	124.3
November	17.3	13.2	13.8	8.8	60.7	3.8	19.4	136.9
December	3.1	7.0	5.5	2.4	18.4	44.4	2.5	83.3
1984—								
January	4.7	8.2	2.2	16.5	0.6	1.9	3.4	37.4
February	5.6	7.4	7.9	13.1	10.3	0.9	52.4	97.6
March	15.9	12.5	9.0	27.9	13.2	7.1	35.0	120.5
April	4.1	61.6	9.4	14.5	15.1	4.3	6.7	115.7
May	7.6	42.1	7.2	26.7	4.6	6.2	3.9	98.3

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (b) Not available for publication.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1981	1,918.6	1,235.5	465.8	158.8	244.0	64.3	4,192.2
1982	961.6	368.0	509.8	66.6	162.4	61.5	2,158.0
1983	801.2	257.7	135.3	87.4	270.6	67.8	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—							
May 1982	1,859.9	1,165.7	473.4	160.5	278.9	84.2	4,118.2
May 1983	910.0	354.1	413.3	112.3	129.6	47.4	1,980.8
May 1984	548.5	217.5	158.3	22.6	264.2	77.1	1,312.7
1983—							
June	57.8	11.7	10.7	1.0	10.4	7.0	100.5
July	86.7	15.0	19.8	1.3	21.7	3.2	148.1
August	39.6	41.8	17.1	5.5	29.4	11.7	146.9
September	17.2	11.3	19.8	3.8	32.8	14.2	103.3
October	41.1	31.2	8.7	1.2	33.3	5.9	124.3
November	38.4	8.6	10.4	0.8	62.2	12.9	136.9
December	10.6	44.5	1.9	0.6	20.7	1.3	83.3
1984—							
January	22.4	5.0	2.5	1.4	3.4	0.7	37.4
February	64.0	5.8	14.6	3.6	6.8	2.4	97.6
March	57.9	15.3	11.6	1.8	31.9	1.8	120.5
April	59.8	14.0	16.8	1.3	8.7	14.9	115.7
May	53.0	13.2	24.5	0.5	3.0	1.1	98.3

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 1983 AND 1984

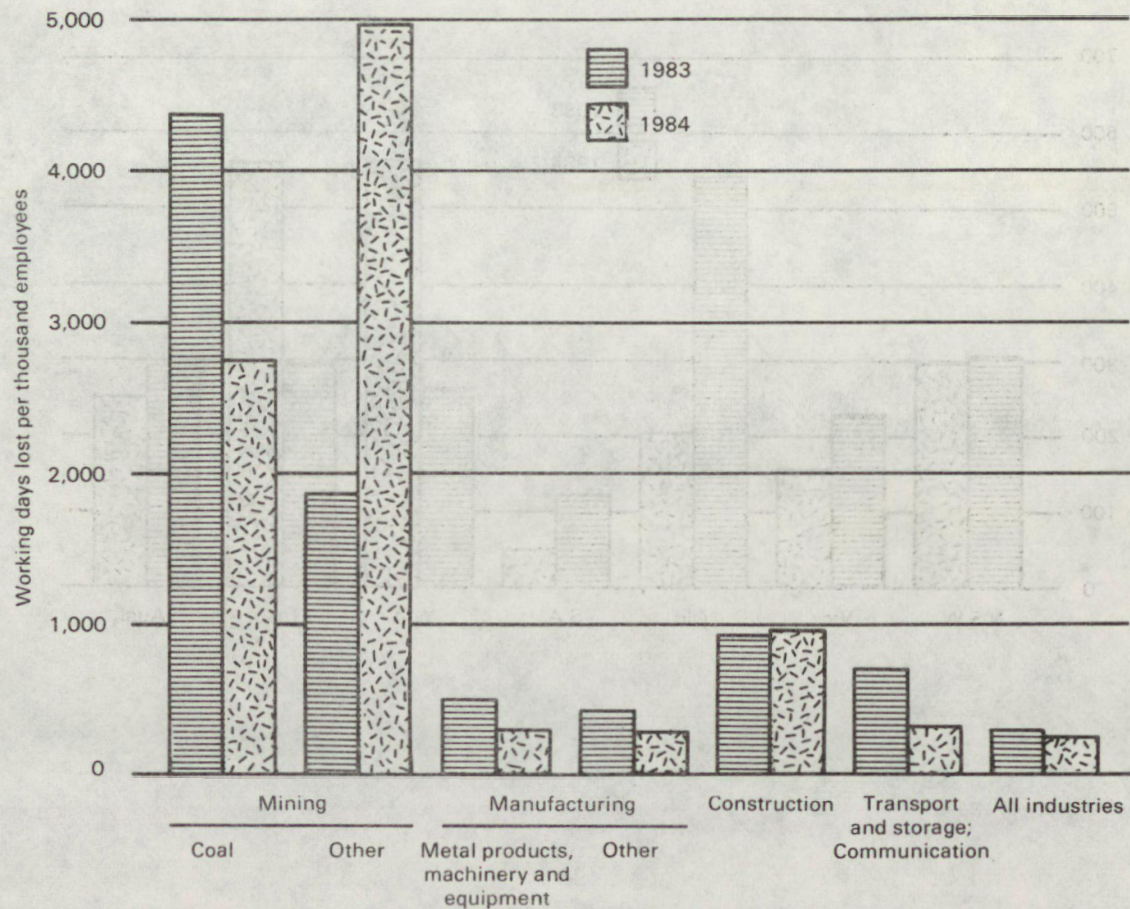


TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES

Period	Mining		Manufacturing		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries	All industries (a)
	Coal	Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1981	10,011	5,141	2,285	989	1,423	1,104	239	800
1982	14,483	2,691	487	512	782	670	85	396
1983	3,240	3,399	348	186	1,269	489	42	249
Twelve months ended—								
May 1983	4,379	1,877	497	427	917	713	51	295
May 1984	2,750	4,971	264	278	979	325	67	252

(a) Excluding agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.

CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 1983 AND 1984

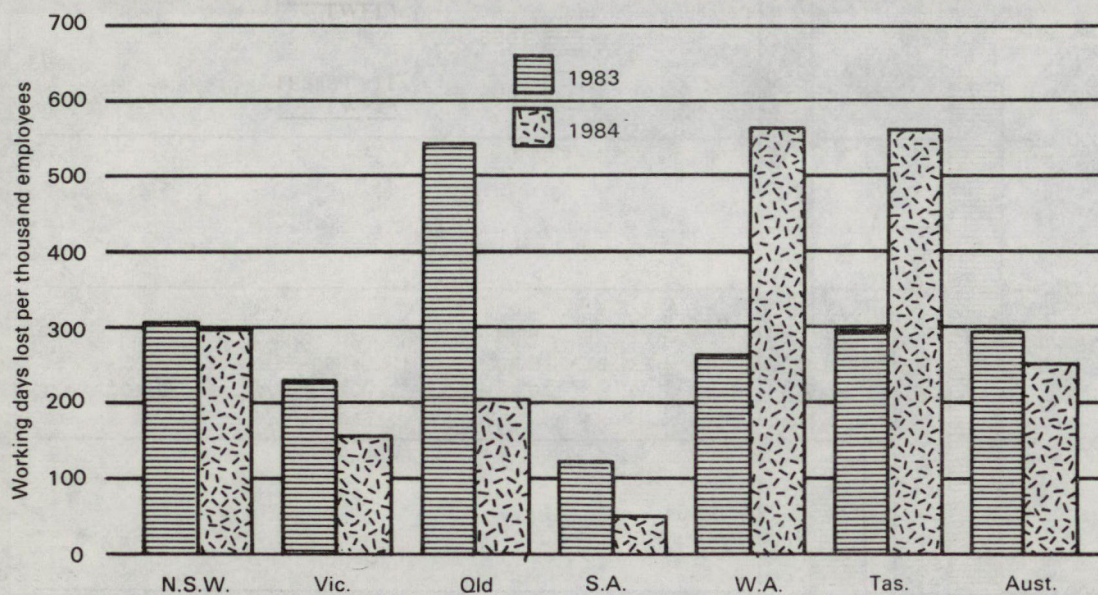


TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1981	1,028	865	624	320	552	456	800
1982	481	260	672	102	352	432	396
1983	288	163	178	114	581	471	249
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>							
May 1983	306	230	543	124	265	297	295
May 1984	299	153	203	50	566	563	252

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.